

# NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



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**Interpretation Number:** 10-01

**Date:** 10-10

**Pamphlet Number:** NFPA 72, 1999, 2002

**Section(s):** 7.5.4.2.4, 7.5.4.2.5

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**Comments:**

Applies to fire alarm systems.

The 1999 edition of NFPA 72 applies to CMS certified facilities. The 2002 edition applies to all other occupancies.

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**Question:** Are visible alarm notification appliances (strobes) always required to be placed within 15 feet of the end of a corridor?

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**Response:** No, except for CMS certified facilities.

Section 7.5.4.2.4 of NFPA 72 allows strobes in corridors less than 20 feet wide to be meet the requirements of a corridor (7.5.4.2) or a room (7.5.4.1). When designed as a corridor, strobes must be placed within 15 feet of the end of a corridor (7.5.4.2.5). No such requirement exists when the corridor meets the room design requirements of 7.5.4.1.

The code allows for flexibility in fire alarm design. The designer has the choice to meet all of the more strict requirements of a room or follow the corridor spacing requirements per 7.5.4.2.

**Note:** this interpretation does **NOT** apply to CMS certified facilities. The choice to follow room or corridor strobe spacing requirements does not exist in the 1999 edition of NFPA 72. Strobes must be placed within 15 feet of the end of a corridor in CMS certified facilities.

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**Signature:**

**Date:** 10-27-10

**Title:** John E. Falgione, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal